

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 28, 2005

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld  
Secretary  
Department of Defense  
The Pentagon  
Room 3E966  
Attention: Dan Stanley  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

We write to request a meeting with you, or your designee, and a group of women from our congressional districts who have lost children serving in our nation's Armed Forces in Iraq.

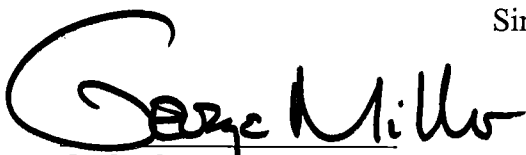
Cindy Sheehan from California's 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District; Vickie Castro from California's 44<sup>th</sup> Congressional District; Jane Bright from California's 30<sup>th</sup> Congressional District; Karen Meredith from California's 14<sup>th</sup> Congressional District; and Dianne Santoriello of Pennsylvania's 14<sup>th</sup> Congressional district have all lost sons who were killed in action while serving in Iraq.

We have been told that during the weeks leading up to a January 19, 2005 visit to Washington, these mothers of deceased combat veterans faxed, e-mailed and telephoned requests to meet with you but received no reply. When they attempted to request a meeting in person, they reportedly were turned away.

As you well know, few sacrifice more than those who answer the Armed Forces' call to duty. And for the families of the fallen, we owe an enormous debt of gratitude. We now ask your help in granting these mothers the meeting that they have been so persistently requesting and, in our opinion, deserve.

Thank you for your assistance. Please contact us should you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,



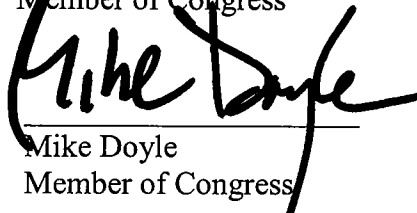
GEORGE MILLER  
Member of Congress



Henry Waxman  
Member of Congress



Ken Calvert  
Member of Congress



Mike Doyle  
Member of Congress